



MAIL STOP - AMENDMENT
Docket No. 27407U

IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: LEUCHTE

Art Unit: 1742

Appl. No.: 10/579,550

Examiner: XX

Filing Date: June 20, 2006

Conf. No.: 3962

Title: METHOD FOR COVERING COPPER WITH PATINA

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

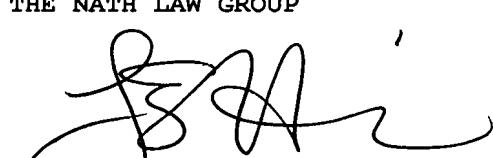
Submitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is the following:

1. Submission of Documents to Supplement Filing Documents under 35 USC 371;
2. PCT/IB/373 (International Preliminary Report on Patentability); and
3. PCT/ISA/237 (Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any excess to Deposit Account Number 14-0112.

Respectfully submitted,

THE NATH LAW GROUP


Gary M. Nath, Reg. No. 26,965
Tanya E. Harkins, Reg. No. 52,993
Customer No. 20529

April 6, 2007

THE NATH LAW GROUP
112 South West Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

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SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS
TO SUPPLEMENT FILING DOCUMENTS UNDER 35 USC 371

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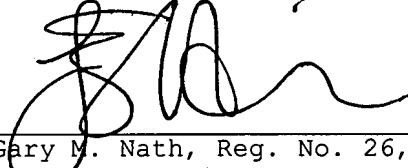
In order to supplement the filing documents for the national phase filing Under USC 371 commenced on June 20, 2006, applicant now submits the following documents:

1. PCT/IB/373 (International Preliminary Report on Patentability); and
2. PCT/ISA/237 (Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority).

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account Number 14-0112.

Respectfully submitted,

THE NATH LAW GROUP



Gary M. Nath, Reg. No. 26,965
Tanya E. Harkins, Reg. No. 52,993
Customer No. 20529

April 16, 2007

THE NATH LAW GROUP
112 South West Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P 42 510 WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/EP2004/013009	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 17 November 2004 (17.11.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 17 November 2003 (17.11.2003)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant KM EUROPA METAL AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT			

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).																
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet. In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.																
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: <table><tbody><tr><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I</td><td>Basis of the report</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II</td><td>Priority</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III</td><td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV</td><td>Lack of unity of invention</td></tr><tr><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V</td><td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI</td><td>Certain documents cited</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII</td><td>Certain defects in the international application</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII</td><td>Certain observations on the international application</td></tr></tbody></table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application															
4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).																

Date of issuance of this report 29 August 2006 (29.08.2006)	
The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70	Authorized officer Ellen Moyse e-mail: pt05@wipo.int

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

TRANSLATION

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

		Date of mailing (day/month/year)	See form PCT/ISA/210
Applicant's or agent's file reference P 42 510 WO		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below	
International application No. PCT/EP2004/013009	International filing date (day/month/year) 17.11.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 17.11.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC C23C22/63, C23C22/68, C23C22/82			
Applicant LEUCHTE, Jürgen			

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/013009

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
 a sequence listing
 table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
 in written format
 in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
 contained in the international application as filed.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/013009

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement																			
<p>1. Statement</p> <table> <tr> <td align="center">Novelty (N)</td> <td>Claims <u>3-8, 17-19, 28</u></td> <td align="center">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Claims <u>1, 2, 9-16, 20-27</u></td> <td align="center">NO</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center">Inventive step (IS)</td> <td>Claims _____</td> <td align="center">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Claims <u>1-28</u></td> <td align="center">NO</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center">Industrial applicability (IA)</td> <td>Claims <u>1-28</u></td> <td align="center">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Claims _____</td> <td align="center">NO</td> </tr> </table>		Novelty (N)	Claims <u>3-8, 17-19, 28</u>	YES		Claims <u>1, 2, 9-16, 20-27</u>	NO	Inventive step (IS)	Claims _____	YES		Claims <u>1-28</u>	NO	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-28</u>	YES		Claims _____	NO
Novelty (N)	Claims <u>3-8, 17-19, 28</u>	YES																	
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Inventive step (IS)	Claims _____	YES																	
	Claims <u>1-28</u>	NO																	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-28</u>	YES																	
	Claims _____	NO																	
<p>2. Citations and explanations:</p> <p align="center">Explanatory statement according to Article 35(c) regarding novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability; documents and explanations to support this statement</p> <p>1) Reference is made to the following documents:</p> <p>D1: EP-A-0 492 566 (KM-KABELMETAL AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT; KM EUROPA METAL AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT) 1 July 1992 (1992-07-01)</p> <p>D2: GB 697 294 A (IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES LIMITED) 16 September 1953 (1953-09-16)</p> <p>D3: PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, Vol. 1997, No. 07, 31 July 1997 (1997-07-31) & JP 09 067681 A (GANTAN BEAUTY KOGYO KK), 11 March 1997 (1997-03-11)</p> <p>D4: PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, Vol. 1996, No. 09, 30 September 1996 (1996-09-30) & JP 08 120460 A (MITSUI MINING & SMELTING CO LTD), 14 May 1996 (1996-05-14)</p> <p>D5: HALL N: "COLORING OF METALS" METAL FINISHING, ELSEVIER SCIENCE PUBLISHING, NEW YORK, NY, US, Vol. 80, No. 1A, January 1982 (1982-01), pages 550, 552, 554, 55, XPOO2010742 ISSN: 0026-0576</p> <p>D6: PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, Vol. 2003, No. 07, 3 July</p>																			

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

2003 (2003-07-03) & JP 2003 089880 A (GANTAN BEAUTY

IND CO LTD), 28 March 2003 (2003-03-28)

D7: RUHLAND M: "Antiquing of brass, copper, and bronze"
METAL FINISHING, ELSEVIER SCIENCE PUBLISHING, NEW
YORK; NY, US, Vol. 100, January 2002 (2002-01), pages
442-455, XP004681995 ISSN: 0026-0576

2) Documents D1 - D4 disclose a method for covering copper surfaces with patina (see D1, column 2, line 35 to column 3, line 42 and claims; D2, column 1, line 17 to column 3, line 32; D3, abstract, and D4, abstract).
The methods all comprise a treatment of the surface with a patination solution and a maturation process at a predetermined atmospheric humidity and temperature.
Thus, the documents are all prejudicial to the novelty of claims 1, 2, 25 and 26 (PCT Article 33(2)).

In document D2, a solution comprising 20g cupric ammonium chloride, 10g ammonium sulphate and 100g water was used as a patination solution. Document 4 uses a solution comprising 1 to 20 wt.% zinc chloride. In document D1, the surface was pre-treated by degreasing and roughening it. The patination solution was sprayed on in documents D1 and D2. Documents D1 and D3 treated strip materials. The method in the application and the methods of documents D1 to D4 are very similar. Thus, it may be assumed that similarly thick layers are obtained.

Therefore, the subject matter of claims 9 - 16, 20, 27 and 28 is not novel, either.

2.2 Documents D5 (see page 554, "Tiffany Green") and D6

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Box No. V **Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.I(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

(see example 2 and abstract) disclose patination solutions comprising a cupric salt as well as zinc chloride and sulphate ions.

The solution in D5 is prejudicial to the novelty of the subject matter of claims 21-24. The solution in D6 is prejudicial to the novelty of the subject matter of claims 21, 23 and 24.

2.3 The subject matter of claims 3-8 and 17-19, however, is novel. Neither the precise maturation conditions in claims 3-8 nor the methodical steps in claims 17-19 are known from documents D1-D4.

3 The methodical steps in claims 17-19 are standard practice in patination processes and a person skilled in the art would apply them particularly based on document D1 without thereby being inventive.

3.1 Document D2 is considered the prior art closest to the subject matter of claims 3-8.

Document D2 discloses a maturation process comprising moistening of a surface treated with a patination solution, drying, and a resting time of at least 2 hours. Document D2 creates a patina which looks like a natural patina and adheres very well.

Claims 3-8 essentially define only a selection of suitable conditions for the method in D2 and thereby achieve the same results. If a person skilled in the art wished to use a maturation

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

process as per document D2 he could easily take the conditions in claims 3-8 into consideration. Such a selection may however only be considered inventive if the conditions lead to unexpected effects or properties. However, such effects or properties are not stated in the application. Thus, the subject matter of claims 3-8 does not involve an inventive step.